Message Text

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41

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 SAM-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 130938Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8052

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR USSAG NKP

CONFIDENTIAL VIENTIANE 2050

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: PRG REPRESENTATIVE "PRESENTS CREDENTIALS" AT SAM NEUA

REF: (A) VIENTIANE 0567, PARA I(C)

- (B) VIENTIANE 1788, PARA I(4)
- (C) FBIS SAIGON 120840Z MAR 74
- (D) FBIS BANGKOK 121452 MAR 74
- 1. REFS (C) AND (D) TRANSMIT RESPECTIVELY PRG "LIBERATION RADIO" AND RADIO PATHET LAO REPORTS THAT PRG "EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY REPRESENTATIVE TO LPF CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO CHAIRMAN PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG ON MARCH 8."
- 2. REF (A) REPORTED ON JOINT PRG/LPF COMMUNIQUE ON OCCASION OF VISIT BY NGUYEN HUU THO TO SAM NEUA JANUARY 13-16 IN WHICH REFERENCE TO PLAN TO SEND PRG REPRESENTATIVE TO SAM NEUA WAS FIRST SURFACED.

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3. DURING CALL ON PRIME MINISTER THIS MORNING, AMBASSADOR PASSED

ON INFORMATION IN REFS (C) AND (D). PRIME MINISTER WAS SURPRISED AND INCREDULOUS, ESPECIALLY AT USE OF DIPLOMATIC TERMINOLOGY "EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY" AND "PRESENTED CREDENTIALS," WHICH IMPLY EXISTENCE OF SEPARATE GOVERNMENTAL REGIME IN SAM NEUA.

4. WE ARE ALSO SURPRISED AND INCREDULOUS IN LIGHT OF FEBRUARY 26 STATEMENT BY "PRG FOREIGN MINISTER" REF (B)) THAT "PRG WAS READY TO ESTABLISH AND DEVELOP FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH NEW LAO COALITION GOVERNMENT." WE SUSPECT THAT ARRIVAL OF PRG REPRESENTATIVE IN SAM NEUA MAY ACTUALLY BE FIRST STEP IN COMMUNIST MOVE TOWARD THIS GOAL.

5. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT, WHILE REF (C) FROM VIETNAMESE LIBERATION RADIO COMMENTED EXTENSIVELY ON IMPORTANCE OF PRG REPRESENTATIVE'S PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS, REF (D) FROM RADIO PATHET LAO GAVE THE EVENT ONLY TWO PERFUNCTORY SENTENCES. THERE IS ALSO A DISCREPANCY IN DATES BETWEEN THE TWO RADIO ACCOUNTS. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT LPF IS NOT TERRIBLY HAPPY ABOUT THIS EVENT, WHICH COMES AT A TIME WHEN LPF IS TRYING TO GET INTO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF ALL LAOS, NOT SET UP SPLINTER GOVERNMENT OF ITS OWN.

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Message Attributes

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Review Authority: GolinoFR

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Review Markings:

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Subject: PRG REPRESENTATIVE "PRESENTS CREDENTIALS" AT SAM NEUA

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, LA, PRG

To: STATE

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